

YUGOSLAVIA: Ethnic Albanian Protests Grow

About 150,000 ethnic Albanians from throughout Serbia's Kosovo Province descended on the provincial capital of Pristina yesterday, renewing projects over the resignations of popular leaders Azem Vlasi and Kacusa Jasari. Smaller protests reportedly also took place throughout the province, and some of the demonstrators called for the resignation of Serbian Party Chief Milosevic. On Thursday evening the Kosovo Central Committee accepted Jasari's resignation as party chief and Vlasi's as a member of the Kosovo presidium. The federal Presidency issued a statement ordering Kosovo leaders to disperse the protesters, and new federal police units are at the airport and may be on their way to Kosovo. The Interior Minister reportedly has arrived in Pristina, and the Kosovo leadership is urging citizens to remain at home

New Albanian protests will probably occur this weekend.
Milosevic, who is scheduled to address today's mass Serb
demonstration in Belgrade, will probably add to tensions by renewing
attacks on Viasi and the Kosovo leadership. If the Albanian
demonstrations continue or turn violent, Kosovo leaders may prohibit
public gatherings and impose curfews or, at the least, hamper
demonstrators by halting bus service and blocking roads. Belgrade
will send in the Army only if federal and local police fail to maintain
control

